

We claim:

1. A cooking unit with a glass-ceramic panel (1) made of transparent colorless glass-ceramic material or a glass panel made of pre-stressed transparent colorless glass material, said glass-ceramic panel or said glass panel providing a cooking surface of the cooking unit and said cooking surface having cooking zones heated with respective radiant heating elements (3), wherein said glass-ceramic panel or said glass panel has an upper side provided with a full surface decorative coating (7) and a solid colored or plain colored IR permeable coating (6) on an underside of said glass-ceramic panel or said glass panel.

2. The cooking unit as defined in claim 1, wherein IR permeable coating (6) and said full surface decorative coating (7) comprise paint pigments selected so that a white, creamy white or bisque colored impression is provided when said glass or glass-ceramic panel is view from above.

3. The cooking unit as defined in claim 1, wherein said solid colored or plain colored IR permeable coating (6) is made from a first temperature-resistant coating material having a temperature resistance greater than about 350°C in a heated region (2) of the glass or glass-ceramic panel and is made from a second temperature-resistant coating material having a temperature-resistance to temperatures of up to about 350°C in a cool region (5) of the glass or glass-ceramic panel.

4. The cooking unit as defined in claim 3, wherein said temperature resistance of said first temperature-resistant coating material is greater than about 500°C.

5. The cooking unit as defined in claim 3, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises, at least in said heated region (2), a paint and said paint comprises organometallic solutions of at least one member selected from the group consisting of complex metal components, colloidal metal components and noble metal components, which contain pigments or mixtures of pigments, and wherein said noble metal components include noble metal resins and lustrous pigments.

6. The cooking unit as defined in claim 3, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises, at least in said heated region (2), a sol-gel coating and said sol-gel coating contains pigments or mixtures of pigments.

7. The cooking unit as defined in claim 3, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises, at least in at least one of said cool region (5) and a transitional region (4) between said heated region (2) and said cool region (5), lustrous paint or organometallic paint having said temperature resistance to said temperatures up to about 350°C, said lustrous paint or said organometallic paint containing pigment, as needed.

8. The cooking unit as defined in claim 7, wherein said organometallic paint is

selected from the group consisting of noble metal resins; anti-corrosive paints, pigmented as needed; and sol-gel layers, pigmented as needed.

9. The cooking unit as defined in claim 3, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises, at least in at least one of said cool region (5) and a transitional region (4) between said heated region (2) and said cool region (5), organic paint having said temperature resistance at temperatures up to about 300 °C, said organic paint comprising organic lacquers, organic-modified glasses or other organic paints comprising an organic binder or sol-gel matrix and at least one pigment ingredient selected from the group consisting of inorganic pigments, lustrous pigments, metal effect pigments, pearlescent pigments and interference pigments.

10. The cooking unit as defined in claim 9, wherein said organic binder matrix comprises an organic polymer.

11. The cooking unit as defined in claim 5, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises a combination of said first and second temperature-resistant coating materials in said heated region, said cool region and in a transitional region between said heated region and said cool region.

12. The cooking unit as defined in claim 1, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) comprises a multi-layered coating.

13. The cooking unit as defined in claim 1, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) is backed or primed with a covering backing layer (8) made from a paint different from that of said IR permeable coating (6).

14. The cooking unit as defined in claim 1, wherein said IR permeable coating (6) on said underside only extends over a heated region (2) of said glass-ceramic panel (1) or said glass panel, said IR permeable coating (6) comprises a temperature-resistant paint and further comprising a foil applied to and extending over said underside of said glass-ceramic panel (1) or said glass panel in a cool region (5) thereof.

15. The cooking unit as defined in claim 14, wherein said foil is selected from the group consisting of plastic foils, stainless steel foils and aluminum foils.

16. The cooking unit as defined in claim 15, wherein said plastic foils comprise polyester foils and melamine resin foils laminated with a transparent adhesive.